

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-14 NSC-05 NSCE-00 ORM-02 DHA-02
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 184982

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, ET, US

SUBJECT: SITUATION IN KEREN

1. DURING AUGUST 2 TELEPHONE CONVERSATION, HUGH DOWNEY OF LALUMBA ORPHANAGE ASSN. TOLD DEPTOFF THAT HE RECENTLY VISITED BY MESTAFSA SALEH, REPORTEDLY ASSOCIATED WITH ETHIOPIAN RELIEF ASSOCIATION. SALEH SAID THAT DURING RECENT FIGHTING IN WHICH ERITREANS CAPTURED KEREN, ORPHANAGE WAS DESTROYED. STAFF AND 68 ORPHANS HAD FLED TO HILLS. LALUMBA HOSPITAL REPORTEDLY NOT DAMAGED.

2. SALEH, WHO CLAIMS CLOSE CONTACTS WITH EPLF, HAS OFFERED TO ARRANGE FOR DUTY-FREE TRANSPORT VIA PORT SUDAN OF APPROXIMATELY DOLS 100,000 IN MEDICAL AND OTHER SUPPLIES TO PEOPLE REMAINING AT KEREN COMPLEX FORMERLY OPERATED BY DOWNEY'S SON. SUPPLY RECEIPTS FROM KEREN PROMISED BY SALEH, IT BEING UNDERSTOOD SUPPLIES ALSO TO BE USED FOR GENERAL
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POPULACE IN AREA.

3. DEPTOFF POINTED OUT TO DOWNEY THAT A DECISION TO MOVE SUPPLIES VIA SUDAN UNDER ERITREAN AUSPICES EFFECTIVELY BURNED HIS BRIDGES TO ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT WHICH COULD RETURN TO KEREN IF TIDE OF WAR CHANGED. DOWNEY SAID THAT POSSIBILITY HAD BEEN CONSIDERED AND PLAN WAS TO PROCEED

WITH SHIPMENT OF SUPPLIES. HE ALSO SAID ERITREANS WERE
EXPECTED TO HOLD KEREN AND THAT, IN ANY CASE, ETHIOPIAN
GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN LESS THAN COOPERATIVE IN PAST. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEDICAL CARE, RELIEF (ASSISTANCE), LIBERATION FRONTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: PINS, MOPS, ET, US
To: ADDIS ABABA KHARTOUM
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